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1687August 19, 1904

## Mortuary report for Cienfuegos for July, 1904.

Tuberculosis, 6; malaria, 8; tetanus, 1; gastro-intestinal diseases, 18; diphtheria, 1; other causes, 34; total, 65.

The sanitary condition of the city is bad, and considerable sickness

is reported in the city.

During the week ended August 6, 1904, one vessel was inspected at this port and bill of health issued for the United States. Total crew, 65; passengers, 8. The vessel was in good sanitary condition and no sickness on board.

Considerable sickness still exists in the city and there is no improve-

ment in sanitary conditions.

Report from Matanzas—Scarlet fever and enteric fever—Sanitary conditions unsatisfactory.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Nuñez reports, August 9, as follows: During the week ended August 6, 1904, bills of health were issued

to 6 vessels bound for ports in the United States.

There have been reported since last week 5 new cases of scarlatina and 1 of enteric fever originating in this city. For the reasons stated in my previous report, it is very difficult to ascertain the exact number of cases of scarlet fever prevailing, since they are not all reported to the health officer. To my knowledge no deaths have occurred in the city from this disease up to the present time. Recently one of the city physicians has been assigned to attend all cases of scarlet fever only, with the view of preventing the transmission of the contagion; but the sanitary guards which proved so successful in other instances have not been reestablished, the claim being made that the city is very short of police and of means to hire extra force to attend the numerous infected places requiring isolation.

On close investigation into the origin of the prevailing cases of enteric fever in this city, it has been found that in every instance except one the water supply had been taken from the city wells instead of from the aqueduct, or main source, which fact would indicate the possibility of the former being contaminated. Here again the city has a difficult problem to confront to remedy this evil. The water rent from the main source is so high (about \$4 per month) that it is beyond the means of the poorer classes, and these are compelled to use it from a different source of supply, either from wells or cisterns, whether it be wholesome or not, inasmuch as the city, through lack of means, is unable to provide for this public necessity; hence the impracticability for the present time of forbidding the use of the contaminated water from the city wells and the possibility of the existing

conditions being allowed to stand indefinitely.

The mortuary statistics of Matanzas for the first ten days of August will be submitted with my next report.

## Report from Santiago.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Wilson reports, August 9, as follows: During the week ended August 9, 1904, bills of health were issued to 4 vessels bound for the United States.

No quarantinable disease has been reported.